AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A laundry dryer control method comprising the steps of:

initiating a drying procedure;

measuring temperature;

calculating a plurality of temperature variation rates;

detecting whether there is a substantial increase in the temperature variation rate with respect to the temperature variation rate of initiating the drying procedure;

calculating a remaining drying time ~~based on the temperature variation rate~~ after the substantial increased is detected; and

performing the drying procedure for the calculated remaining drying time[[;]]

~~calculating a plurality of temperature variation rates; and~~

~~determining whether there is a substantial increase in the temperature variation rate as a function of the plurality of temperature variation rates~~.

2. – 8. (Canceled)

9. (Withdrawn) A laundry dryer comprising:

a drum for accommodating laundry being dried during a drying procedure;

a temperature sensor for periodically measuring an internal temperature with respect to said drum and outputting a signal indicative of said internal temperature; and

a microcomputer for calculating a plurality of temperature variation rates as a function of the temperature sensor output signal, for calculating changes in temperature variation rate, and for deriving an overall drying time based on the temperature variation rates, wherein said microcomputer controls a plurality of drivers that drive a heater, motor and exhaust fan for a period of time after the change in temperature variation rate exceeds a predetermined value.

10. (Withdrawn) The laundry dryer as claimed in claim 9, wherein the period of time is a remaining drying time based on a known drying pattern, the known drying pattern varying according to an amount and type of the laundry being dried.

11. (Withdrawn) The laundry dryer as claimed in claim 10, wherein the predetermined value indicates a substantial increase in temperature variation rate.

12. (Withdrawn) A laundry dryer comprising:
a drum for accommodating laundry being dried during a drying procedure;
a temperature sensor for periodically measuring an internal temperature with respect to said drum and outputting a signal indicative of measurements of a plurality of temperature variation rates obtained during the drying procedure; and
a microcomputer for comparing the measurements to calculate an overall drying time and for controlling a plurality of drivers for driving a heater, motor, and exhaust fan according to the comparison, wherein the control of the plurality of drivers continues for a predetermined time after the measured temperature variation rate first exceeds a predetermined value.

13. (Withdrawn) The laundry dryer as claimed in claim 12, wherein the predetermined time is a remaining drying time based on a known drying pattern, the known drying pattern varying according to an amount and type of the laundry being dried.

14. (Withdrawn) The laundry dryer as claimed in claim 13, wherein the predetermined value indicates a substantial increase in measurements of the plurality of the temperature variation rates according to the known drying pattern.

15. (Canceled)

16. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the drying procedure is divided by 3 time periods from initiating the drying procedure to completing the drying procedure.

17. (New) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the drying procedure is divided by the difference of the temperature variation rate as the drying procedure proceeds.

18. (New) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the first time period is a period for preheating a drying object, the second time period is a period for substantially drying the drying object, and the third time period is a period for completing the drying procedure.

19. (New) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein a heater for heating air and a motor for rotating a drum are differentially driven for the first and second time period and for the third time period.

20. (New) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the third time period is the remaining drying time.

21. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a cooling procedure after the drying procedure.

22. (New) A laundry dryer control method comprising the steps of:

initiating a drying procedure;

measuring temperature;

calculating a plurality of temperature variation rates;

detecting whether there is a substantial increase in the temperature variation rate with respect to the temperature variation rate of initiating the drying procedure;

calculating a remaining drying time after the substantial increased is detected; and

performing the drying procedure for the calculated remaining drying time, wherein a heater for heating air and a motor for rotating a drum are differentially driven for the drying procedure which is divided by the difference of the temperature variation rate as the drying procedure proceeds.

23. (New) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the drying procedure is divided by 3 time periods.

24. (New) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the first time period is a period for preheating a drying object, the second time period is a period for substantially drying the drying object and the third time period is a period for completing the drying procedure.

25. (New) The method as claimed in claim 22, the second time period is a period during which the drying object is substantially dried at peak drying temperature.

26. (New) The method as claimed in claim 23, the third time period is a period for high temperature drying that continues for the remained drying time after the peak drying temperature.